

Amendments to Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A polypeptide-dimer comprising two soluble gp130 molecules, wherein at least one of said soluble gp130 molecules is covalently linked to polyethylene glycol and wherein each of said soluble gp130 molecules consists of the extracellular domains D1-D3 of gp130 or mutants or fragments thereof that maintain the ability to inhibit the activity of the agonistic complex IL-6/sIL-6R.
2. (Original) The polypeptide-dimer of claim 1, wherein each of said soluble gp130 molecules is covalently linked to polyethyleneglycol.
3. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide-dimer of claim 1, wherein at least one of said two soluble gp130 molecules comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
4. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide-dimer of claim 3, wherein both of said two soluble gp130 molecules comprise the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
5. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide-dimer of claim 1, wherein the two soluble gp130 molecules are linked to each other through one or more disulfide bridges.
6. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide-dimer of claim 1, wherein the two soluble gp130 molecules are linked to each other through a forked polyethylene glycol.
7. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide-dimer of claim 1, wherein the two soluble gp130 molecules are linked to each other through a flexible peptide linker.
8. (Withdrawn) A polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide-dimer of claim 1 or a monomer of said dimer.

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9. (Withdrawn) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 8.
10. (Withdrawn) A host cell comprising an expression vector of claim 9.
11. (Withdrawn) A method of producing the polypeptide-dimer of claim 10, comprising culturing said host cell, recovering the polypeptide-monomer or dimer from said host cell or the culture and PEGylating the monomers or dimers.
12. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide dimer of claim 1.
13. (Previously Presented) Use of a polypeptide-dimer according to claim 1 for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prevention of bone resorption, hypercalcemia, cachexia, a tumor, an autoimmune disease, an inflammatory disease, a bacterial or viral infection.